

Proclamation 4917 of April 1, 1982

National Safe Boating Week, 1982

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Americans have always enjoyed the outdoors and are fortunate to have a multitude of sports and recreational activities that serve to refresh the body and spirit. For many of our citizens, the most popular form of recreation is boating.

It is essential for those involved in recreational boating to recognize the paramount importance of safety in the operation of small craft. Boating offers a myriad of wonderful opportunities for the whole family, and these experiences can be enhanced by careful attention to rules of safety. In fact, it is the responsibility of boating participants to make sure they are fully conversant in all matters involving safety.

All Americans who utilize our waterways for recreational purposes should be well versed in water safety rules and techniques for their own protection and that of their friends and loved ones. I urge those who engage in recreational boating to take advantage of the many safe boating courses which are sponsored by governmental and private organizations. I particularly urge those who are inexperienced operators of small boats to enroll in these educational programs. Learning the fundamentals of safe boating will add to the potential pleasure and excitement of recreational boating.

Aware of the need for boating safety, the Congress enacted the joint resolution of June 4, 1958 (36 U.S.C. 161) as amended, requesting that the President proclaim annually a National Safe Boating Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning June 6, 1982, as National Safe Boating Week.

I invite the Governors of the states, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa, and the Mayor of the District of Columbia to provide for the observance of this week.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 1st day of April in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixth.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 4918 of April 2, 1982

Older Americans Month, 1982

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

A nation derives its soul, strength, and character from the sum of the creative efforts of all its citizens. While we are a nation of more than 230 million individuals, we are one people—interdependent on each other for our accomplishments and our future.

We owe a special debt of gratitude to our older citizens, who have enriched, and continue to enrich, our great nation. Older Americans from all walks of life have played a major role in creating the bounties of life that bless us all.

As we have come to appreciate the reservoir of experience and depth of knowledge possessed by our older citizens, we must recognize the importance of continuing to draw on them. Older Americans have much to give, both through employment and volunteer work. In paying homage to the contributions and continued potential of older Americans, we also recognize there are those among them who require assistance from others to enhance the quality of their golden years.

As a nation, we are aging together. Opportunities and support we can provide to older Americans today will benefit all of us tomorrow. I urge all Americans to join in this call for intergenerational action that will make more meaningful the lives and potential of older Americans and our society as a whole.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the month of May, 1982, as Older Americans Month.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this second day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixth.

RONALD REAGAN

Editorial Note: The President's remarks of Apr. 2, 1982, on signing Proclamation 4918 are printed in the *Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents* (vol. 18, p. 420).

Proclamation 4919 of April 2, 1982

Cancer Control Month, 1982

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

This year marks the tenth anniversary of our country's commitment of major resources to the control of cancer through the National Cancer Program. While progress against this dread disease has been slow, each step forward can save thousands of lives since statistics show that one out of four Americans now living will become a victim of cancer.

Research has demonstrated that lifestyle and environment play a crucial role in the development of cancer. Reports issued by the Surgeon General increasingly link cigarette smoking with cancer of the lung and other parts of the body. We have developed greater understanding of the effects of exposure to carcinogens and radiation in the workplace and have also learned the importance of diet and nutrition as factors in the development and prevention of cancer. Advances in biochemistry, microbiology, and other basic research have improved our comprehension of the cellular events that lead to cancer formation, but researchers still seek a clearer understanding of the cause of cancer as they strive to halt the progress of this disease more effectively.